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Granville County Woman Wins \$1 Million "Spectacular" Prize -Richmond County Man Wins \$102,644 Playing "Carolina Cash 5"-

RALEIGH- A Granville County woman who works for a company that makes vacuum bags has "bagged" herself a \$1 million prize playing "\$100 Million Cash Spectacular." Jacqueline Strong of **Bullock** claimed her prize yesterday at North Carolina Education Lottery (NCEL) headquarters in Raleigh.

Strong says she and her adult daughter bought a couple of instant scratch-off tickets at the Stovall Quick Stop in **Stovall**. They were scratching off the tickets while sitting in their car when Strong asked her daughter to go back inside and buy her one more ticket. That extra ticket turned out to be worth \$1 million!

Strong, a mother of three and grandmother of six, said she plans to spend most of the money helping her family. She said her youngest son wants a four-wheeler and her older son may get a new car. She added that she may buy herself a new house with the prize money.

Strong is the NCEL's seventh \$1 million winner. She has received her first annuity payment of \$50,000 minus taxes and will receive payments every May for the next 19 years.

Jerry Gardner of **Marston** also asked someone else to buy him a ticket and ended up winning a top prize. Last Thursday, Gardner called his wife, Billie Jo, and suggested she buy a "Carolina Cash 5" ticket for that night's drawing. That suggestion ended up being worth \$102,644 when the couple's ticket matched all five numbers drawn!

Gardner says they will use the money to pay off their mortgage. The winning ticket was purchased at Smokers Express on U.S. Highway 15-501 in **Southern Pines**.

Two tickets in last night's Powerball drawing matched four out of five white balls plus the Powerball and are worth \$10,000 each. These tickets were sold at Sam's Mini Mart on West Green Drive in **High Point** and Wilco #1801 on Greenville Boulevard in **Greenville**.

A total of 32,744 North Carolina Powerball players won prizes in Wednesday's Powerball drawing, ranging from \$10,000 down to \$3 for a total payout in prizes worth \$223,877. No one matched all five white balls plus the Powerball, so the jackpot for the Saturday, May 17, Powerball drawing is \$35 million.

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The NCEL has paid out more than \$5 million total in instant scratch-off ticket prizes since Monday, May 12. Also since Monday, "Carolina Cash 5" players have won nearly \$105,000 and "Carolina Pick 3" players have won nearly \$541,000 in prizes.

Winners in the May 14 Powerball drawing:

| <u>Winner</u> | <u>Hometown</u> | <u>Amount Won</u> | <u>Store Where Ticket Was Purchased</u> |
|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Unknown | | \$10,000 | Sam's Mini Mart 2207 W. Green Dr., High Point |
| Unknown | | \$10,000 | Wilco #1801 1601 Greenville Blvd., Greenville |

Winner in the May 8 "Carolina Cash 5" drawing:

| <u>Winner</u> | <u>Hometown</u> | <u>Amount Won</u> | <u>Store Where Ticket Was Purchased</u> |
|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Jerry Gardner | Marston | \$102,645 | Smokers Express 1600 U.S. Hwy. 15-501, Southern Pines |

Winners in the May 10 Powerball drawing:

| <u>Winner</u> | <u>Hometown</u> | <u>Amount Won</u> | <u>Store Where Ticket Was Purchased</u> |
|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Freeman Walters | Winston-Salem | \$10,000 | Food Lion #348 3197 Peters Creek Parkway, Winston-Salem |
| Chadwick Smith | Concord | \$10,000 | Wilco 368 475 U.S. Hwy. 29 North, Concord |

Instant scratch-off ticket top tier prize winners:

| <u>Winner</u> | <u>Hometown</u> | <u>Amount Won</u> | <u>Game Played</u> |
|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Jacqueline Strong | Bullock | \$1,000,000 | "\$100 Million Cash Spectacular" |
| Albert Godfrey | Asheville | \$50,000 | "\$100 Million Cash Spectacular" |
| Fatima Hedgepeth | Red Oak | \$20,000 | "Luck of the Draw" |
| Harold Andrews | Durham | \$10,000 | "\$100 Million Cash Spectacular" |
| Angela Boston | Plymouth | \$10,000 | "\$100 Million Cash Spectacular" |
| Abed Hassan | Archdale | \$10,000 | "Super Gold" |
| Brandon Gerwolds | Ruffin | \$7,000 | "Super 7's – Blue" |
| Bessie Boone | Wendell | \$5,000 | "\$100 Million Cash Spectacular" |
| Meredith Chandler | Raleigh | \$5,000 | "\$100 Million Cash Spectacular" |
| Jenine Coffield | Southport | \$5,000 | "Green and Gold" |
| James Foard | Statesville | \$5,000 | "\$100 Million Cash Spectacular" |
| Gloria Fryar | Richland | \$5,000 | "\$100 Million Cash Spectacular" |
| John Pickard Jr. | Graham | \$5,000 | "\$100 Million Cash Spectacular" |
| Sharlene Robinson | Raleigh | \$5,000 | "\$100 Million Cash Spectacular" |

(more)

"Carolina Cash 5" Top Prize Winners Tally

| <u>Prize</u> | <u># of winners</u> |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| \$50,000 to \$856,998 | 124 |

Powerball Winners Tally

| <u>Prize</u> | <u># of winners</u> |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| \$2 Million - \$200,000 | 105 |
| \$100,000 - \$10,000 | 621 |

(The Powerball numbers above are since May 31, 2006,
but do not include unclaimed prizes.)

100% of the North Carolina Education Lottery net proceeds are used for pre-kindergarten programs for at risk youth, reduction of class size in early grades, school construction and college scholarships for need-based individuals.